Idaho FY 2003-2004 Enhancing Education Through Technology
Title II-D Competitive Grant Abstracts

St. Maries School District #41 - $69,434

Creating Change

The ISAT data of the Heyburn Elementary and Upriver School indicates that beginning in the 4th grade and increasing at alarming rates, the range between low scoring students and high scoring students begins to widen and continues to widen considerably through the 8th grade and beyond. A single seventh grade language arts class is likely to include students who can read and comprehend as well as most adult learners; students who can barely decode words, comprehend meaning, or apply basic information; and students who fall somewhere between these extremes. The administrators and teachers of these students are seeking to dramatically improve instruction and student achievement by providing intense professional development and tools for staff to effectively provide the necessary differentiated instruction to meet all learners' needs.

Traditionally our teachers have followed a model of one-size-fits-all instruction. The data has provided the reflection our staff needs to understand that instruction must be adjusted to ensure that ALL students are experiencing growth. The District's School Improvement Plan states that; "Significant and relevant time will be made for meaningful Teaming Activities for teachers that will directly impact and improve student achievement." Utilizing this Teaming Time and professional development opportunities, our project will focus on training teachers to create differentiated classroom instruction enriched with technology tools. Activities will focus on; a variety of ways for students to explore curriculum content, a variety of sense-making activities or processes through which students can come to understand and "own" information and ideas, and a variety of options through which students can demonstrate or exhibit what they have learned.

Plummer-Worley Joint School District #44 - $70,000

Let's Read Project

The State of Idaho has identified Lakeside Elementary School as a "targeted school." What does this mean? The majority of our student's come to school from a low socioeconomic environment as well as the school has been identified for improvement by the State.

A group of motivated educators have come together to request funding for the Let's Read Project. This project is solely designed to increase student reading achievement by engaging teachers in quality professional development, which will incorporate lesson plan design that unitizes technology to ensure objectives and strategies are focused on improving student reading achievement.

Snake River School District #52 - $70,000

The Three R's In The Palm Of Your Hand

Snake River Jr. High is committed to increased integration of technology in the classroom. This project will increase student proficiency and achievement in reading, writing and math by utilizing the power of Palm hand-held computers in various applications both in and outside the classroom. Handheld computers allow learning to happen anytime and encourage learning outside the classroom. Emphasis will be on helping all 8th grade students demonstrate proficiency in the use of technology by integrating handheld computer use in reading, writing, and math curriculum areas.

Blackfoot School District #55 - $70,000

Enhancing Student Achievement Through Technology

The project proposes a systemic, technology infused approach to increasing student achievement in mathematics grades K-12. The approach is based on: 1) identified need (data-driven); 2) specific goals aligned with the District Strategic Plan, School Improvement Plans and the technology plan; 3) the implementation of technology in an effective manner supported by research, and; 4) extensive delivery of ongoing training. The software is coordinated with the curriculum, assesses a student's level, provides support and feedback for the student and monitors achievement across time. Planned intensive teacher training and evaluation will support the successful implementation of technology into the classroom.

Horseshoe Bend School District #73 - $70,000

Integrating Technology and Achievement with PLATO Proposal

Project ITAP (Integrating Technology and Achievement with PLATO) plans to serve 300+ students throughout Horseshoe Bend School District. The goals of the project include the following:
- providing hardware and online access to a website for self-guided lessons to reinforce low areas of the ISAT.
- assist students with individualized education plans.
- SMART Boards for two computer labs to aide in classroom instruction.
- training professionals to use PLATO, SMART Boards, current networked software and application ware, and one-on-one training for network operating systems.

Caldwell School District #132 - $69,756

Building Data Team Leaders

The goal of the *Building Data Team Leaders* project is to increase student achievement as measured by standardized test scores through structured teacher collaboration. The Caldwell School District will continue its emphasis on Data-Driven Decision Making to reach goals set forth in each School Improvement Plan by expanding this process to the next level – individual students in individual classrooms.

The *Building Data Team Leaders* project will:

- develop teacher leaders in every school in the district
- improve individual student achievement through structured teacher collaboration
- improve individual student achievement through the integration of technology into curricula and instruction

Vallivue School District #139 - $69,790

Training Wheels

The purpose of this sub-grant request is to provide each member of the district's existing staff development team with a mobile presentation and instructional technology lab to assist them in delivering job-embedded staff development. This technology will be used by teams of trainers to deliver the content of staff development; to videotape effective instructional practices for teacher reflection and collaboration; for record-keeping; for researching; for communication; to share electronic educational resources with staff, students, and parents; and to model the integration of technology into classroom instruction. The overall goal is to improve student achievement by improving the quality of instruction.

Grace Joint School District #148 - $70,000

Local Academic Achievement Reform (LAAR)

Grace School District downsizes approximately ½ FTE per year. Class offerings and scheduling flexibility has become severely limited, affecting student educational opportunity and achievement. Current teacher technology integration into curriculum has been difficult because of limited computer lab space and a maximum demand for such facilities.

LAAR was designed to promote teacher integration of technology into the curriculum, mentor/model integrated technology skills for colleagues, and introduce internet-based courses in partnership with accredited universities and agencies. Benefits from LAAR also include increased class offerings for individual student needs and concurrent enrollment opportunities for college-bound and professional/vocational students.

Orofino Joint School District #171 - $70,000

Using Data to Drive Instruction

"Using Data to Drive Instruction" is a flexible research-based staff development program which focuses on providing training and technology tools so teachers can monitor and review student progress and adjust instruction. This collaborative approach to teacher training provides an environment where teachers learn to integrate technology through both group and individualized, self-paced on-line instruction and peer coaching. Technology is integrated into all curriculum areas when electronically generated data is used to plot student progress, plan and execute instructional interventions, and report results. All stakeholders-students, teachers, parents, and community-are better served when data is routinely collected, analyzed, and used to enhance the educational system.

Glenns Ferry Joint School District #192 - $69,991

Using Data and Differentiating Instruction Through Technology

The primary purpose of this grant is to use technology to collect, manage, and analyze data to inform and enhance teaching and school improvement efforts. Teachers will be trained to use Idaho Standards Achievement Tests, classroom assessments, and other data to inform instruction. The project provides an enhanced technology platform to gather and analyze data so that teachers can easily monitor students' progress, determine areas for remediation and enrichment, and conduct on-going assessments. By using a new wireless lab and incorporating existing and updated software, teachers will be able to differentiate instruction and aptly address deficiencies in student performance.

Preston School District #201 - $70,000

The Mathematics and Science Partnership

The Mathematics and Science Partnership proposes systemic reform as the only option to improve teaching and learning of math and science. *The Mathematics and Science Partnership* is unique in that it will change the way in which instructional technology is currently used at Preston Junior High School. The project has two goals. The first is to improve student performance in basic math and science technology skills by seamlessly integrating technology use with math and science laboratory activities. The second is to extend the reach of the classroom teacher by utilizing hardware, software, and networks to model thinking, learning, and technology use.

Bliss School District #234 - $69,800

On the Right Track

On the Right Track will reach all the students in the district, grades K-12. It will train teachers, provide individual student learning, and involve participation by parents.

60% of the students in the district are reading below grade level and 62 % are below grade level in math. With only one or two computers per classroom, teachers cannot fully utilize technology to assist these struggling students. Creating a new computer lab with software specifically designed as a reading intervention program, and a math program developed to meet state and national standards, we can provide assistance for *all* of our students.

Grangeville Joint School District #241 - $70,000

Historical Vision

Joint School District #241 has the vision to promote the use of technology in the classroom. This is evident in the district's commitment to technology procurement and training. To keep this vision we need additional technology, software and training that is beyond the resources of the district.

To support this *Historical Vision* we will provide projectors, sound systems, training and software for subject enhancement and student achievement. Teachers and students using this technology will acquire a greater appreciation of Social Studies, understanding that a society which does not know its history is bound to repeat the mistakes of its past.

Post Falls School District #273 - $25,591

Math Connection[2]

"Students will have the attitudes, skills and knowledge to be productive and responsible citizens". Student's success in math at the middle school will improve.   Instructors will be provided strategies for at-risk learners and improving math instruction. In-service will be provided on integrating technology with math instruction and reaching at-risk students. A middle school math teacher will utilize thirty laptop computers containing math tutorial software and email access for identified students. The key component to success will be the parent. Students and parents will receive training on laptop usage to complete math assignments, skill development, and using e-mail for home-school communication.

Salmon School District #291 - $69,442

Thin Clients Equal P.H.A.T.T Results: Profoundly Higher Achievement Through Technology.

The goal of the district is to increase student academic achievement through the effective integration of technology into curricula and instruction through its project:
Thin Clients Equal P.H.A.T.T Results: Profoundly Higher Achievement Through Technology. Twelve teachers will be prepared as technology leaders to provide mentoring and professional development. Using thin-client technologies, 140 workstations will be purchased to upgrade each teacher's workstation and to place 4 additional student workstations in "Tech Mentors" classrooms. The collaborative abilities of the Office 2003 system will be used to increase parental involvement through publishing lesson plans, curriculum and assignments to the district's web site.

Madison School District #321 - $70,000

AYP PLUS

Project Goal and Objectives: The goal of Project AYP PLUS is to increase student achievement by developing an effective research-based instructional model that can be replicated to other schools. There are three major objectives of the grant:

Professional Development: Plan and provide staff development in order to more effectively train teachers in assessing student knowledge and understanding, engaging students and enhancing learning through technology, and effectively identifying and delivering needed interventions in order to improve student reading achievement.

Quality Instruction: Provide quality instruction and interventions to ensure that all students have the best possible opportunity for increasing academic achievement.

Student Technology: Train students in using technology to enhance learning and to assess their individual strengths and weaknesses to further academic growth.

Oneida County School District #351 - $70,000

Reading Our Way to Success

Oneida School District wants to be "Reading Our Way to Success" by integrating technology into our classrooms to help achieve our district mission of "Success for Every Student". The objectives of our project include: (a) using technology to increase reading fluency and comprehension, (b) increasing the availability and accessibility of technology within Oneida School District in order to improve academic achievement and technology literacy of each student in our district, and (c) providing teachers with the needed equipment and professional development to successfully integrate technology into classroom instruction.

Bruneau-Grand View Joint School District #365 - $55,415

Portal to the Future

As stated in our district technology plan and mandated in the No Child Left Behind act, the district is focusing on facilitating school-parent communications through the development of a web-based Learning Portal. Within this framework, the district will enhance the method for managing student information by coupling database and middleware applications with a Web portal. This dynamic portal, together with the purchase of wireless TabletPCs will leverage the district's current technology resources to make the delivery of coursework more advantageous to an "anytime, anyplace" learning environment.

Homedale Joint School District #370 - $70,000

Learning Together

Project "Learning Together" fosters shared responsibility (all stakeholders) for increasing student achievement. Focused professional development, accessibility/application of appropriate resources, and effective communication at the right time and in the right place are proven strategies that increase student learning. The "Learning Together" project will provide technology integration modeling and team-teaching in classrooms throughout the district; afford access to and appropriate utilization of technology resources to help Homedale's students master Idaho's state achievement standards objectives; and enable the Homedale School District to more effectively communicate with stakeholders through electronic technology, all in the right place and at the right time.

New Plymouth School District #372 - $69,455

The Proficiency Project

New Plymouth School District is ready to take the next step, to use technology to engage all students in the learning process. By integrating the Classroom Performance System into the classroom, teachers can provide small groups, teams, and whole classes with immediate feedback on their responses to lessons and assessments. Students will use wireless keypads to input answers to questions on a screen. Data will be instantly assessed and anonymously posted on the screen as percentages, while each individual's keypad choice is sent to the teacher's computer. Reports are available to the teacher and results are transferred to a gradebook. To promote mastery of material, teachers can revise lesson plans spontaneously as student responses show patterns of strength and need.

Fruitland School District #373 - $48,436

Elementary Technology Enhancement Project

The purpose of this grant is to provide training and technology to support elementary teachers as they strive to ensure no child is left behind. The Fruitland Elementary School is working to meet the needs of individual students by taking advantage of the technology available to tailor educational materials to the specific needs of each student. The focus of this grant will be on reading skills because reading is a cornerstone for success. In particular, funding this grant will allow teachers to use additional computers to provide challenges for students who have already met the reading goal for their grade level while assisting students who need additional time and attention to meet their goals.

Wallace School Dist #393 - $70,000

Silver Hills Elementary School Tech/Connect Upgrade

The Wallace District (EETT) project rationale is to improve the technology/ connectivity at Silver Hills Elementary, which shall close the achievement gap for disadvantaged students. Poverty is measurably higher among Wallace Schools students than other Idaho students. Unemployment is more than twice the state average. The reader shall find this project practical as it applies to standardized testing and adequate yearly progress.   The District shall upgrade network servers, computers/peripherals at Silver Hills to address adequate yearly progress deficiencies: connectivity with high speed cabling, routers, switches, and data drops to full-T1 Internet connectivity including multi-mode CAT 5-6 cabling.

Avery School District #394 - $70,000

Mathematics: Preparing All Students Project

Avery Elementary School and Calder Elementary School request funding for the implementation of effective mathematics software, necessary professional development, and appropriate technology to improve student learning. Mathematics: Preparing all Students Project has been carefully planned by a leadership team with the purpose of analyzing the District's School Improvement Plan, Technology Plan and Assessment Data.

An extensive evaluation of the project will determine if there was an increase of student achievement and an increase of effective use of technology. The leadership team will continually monitor the project in order to plan, modify and adjust to ensure the project's long-term success.